



Director of
Central
Intelligence

~~Top Secret~~

OCPAS/CIG

CY# 281

25X1

National Intelligence Daily

Tuesday
1 February 1983

~~Top Secret~~

CPAS NID 83-027JX

1 February 1983

Copy 281

25X1

Page Denied

Top Secret

25X1

Contents

[Redacted]

25X1

USSR: *Cosmos 1402 Developments* 2

[Redacted]

25X1

Spain-France: *Talks on Central America* 4

[Redacted]

25X1

South Africa: *Opposition to Reform* 6

Suriname: *More Arrests* 7

[Redacted]

25X1

Israel: *President To Step Down* 8

[Redacted]

25X1

USSR - Western Europe: *Nuclear-Free Zone* 9

[Redacted]

25X1

Vietnam-Kampuchea: *Attack on Resistance Base* 10

[Redacted]

25X1

Bermuda: *Early Elections* 11

Haiti: *Threat to Pope's Life* 11

Special Analysis

Honduras: *One Year of Civilian Government* 12

[Redacted]

Top Secret

25X1

[Redacted]

25X1

1 February 1983

Page Denied

Next 1 Page(s) In Document Denied

Top Secret

25X1

USSR: Cosmos 1402 Developments

A second object, which was separated from Cosmos 1402 on 28 December and probably is the nuclear reactor core, is decaying and will reenter the Earth's atmosphere early this month.

25X1

The Soviets have told the UN this object is the nuclear fuel core. They say it will reenter the atmosphere between 3 and 8 February and will burn up completely.

25X1

25X1

Top Secret

25X1

Page Denied

Next 1 Page(s) In Document Denied

Top Secret
[redacted] 25X1

SPAIN-FRANCE: Talks on Central America

Spain and France are engaged in preliminary discussions about a joint peace initiative in Central America. [redacted] 25X1

The US Embassy in Madrid says the initiative, which was discussed last month in Paris by Spanish Foreign Minister Moran and French Foreign Minister Cheysson, probably will concentrate on El Salvador, Nicaragua, and Honduras. The French and Spanish have yet to agree on the terms of an exploratory phase. Spain plans to keep the US informed and says it does not want to undercut other peace proposals. [redacted] 25X1

Comment: The impetus for the initiative probably came from Madrid, which has been searching for ways to capitalize on its alleged special relationship with Latin America in developing its foreign policy. Spanish officials believe an initiative would tend to strengthen support at home for the government, but they seem to be moving cautiously. [redacted] 25X1

Prime Minister Gonzalez's experience as a Socialist International representative dealing with Managua keeps him in touch with complex regional issues. Madrid's realism in this regard may have persuaded it to drop plans for a "mini-Helsinki" conference for Central America. [redacted] 25X1

Paris remains concerned over what it views as a deteriorating situation in the region but probably will also be cautious. French officials were chastened by the negative reactions in the region and in the US to its initial activism, including the French-Mexican declaration on El Salvador and arms sales to Nicaragua. They would be likely to insist, at a minimum, on a broad consensus in Central America and the approval of some key South American states before participating in any initiative. [redacted] 25X1

Top Secret
[redacted] 25X1

1 February 1983

Page Denied

Top Secret

SOUTH AFRICA: Opposition to Reform

Disagreement is growing among South Africa's nonwhite political groups over how to respond to the government's constitutional "reforms" as the all-white parliament convenes to implement the proposals.

The South African Indian Council, a government advisory body, has followed the lead of the Colored Labor Party in conditionally accepting reforms that allow Coloreds and Indians to participate in a new three-chambered parliament. Both groups are asking that apartheid restrictions affecting their communities be relaxed and that blacks be included in the new arrangements.

Two major Indian parties, the Natal Indian Congress and a small group in the Transvaal, have rejected the proposals, and the Transvaal party is trying to organize a "United Democratic Front" to boycott elections for the new parliament. The call for a front has received support from some key Colored leaders and Zulu Chief Gatsha Buthelezi. At least one radical black group has rejected the front, and the Progressive Federal Party and other groups that have been invited to join have not yet responded.

A recent public opinion poll, meanwhile, shows about 70 percent of both the Colored and Asian communities would be willing to participate in the new system either now or if it were "improved."

Comment: The leadership of a "united front" would face several difficulties in coordinating a Colored and Indian boycott of parliamentary elections. Its likely members are ideologically disparate and would find it difficult to agree on strategy.

Pretoria also could sidestep a boycott by appointing nonwhite members to the new parliament or having them elected indirectly, although to do so would discredit the reforms in the two communities. The government also could resort to police intimidation and bannings.

The Botha government also may try to win over the basically conservative Colored and Indian communities by offering to relax somewhat rules segregating residential areas, prohibitions against mixed marriages, and other particularly offensive apartheid measures.

Top Secret

1 February 1983

Top Secret
[redacted]

25X1

SURINAME: More Arrests

Suriname's state radio announced the arrest of former Deputy Army Commander Horb along with 14 others and the seizure of a large cache of weapons on Sunday in connection with an assassination attempt against Army Commander Bouterse. Several other persons reportedly are under house arrest. The US Embassy says Paramaribo remains calm. [redacted]

25X1

Comment: The allegations of an assassination attempt probably are an excuse for the move against Horb and his supporters, who refused to back the regime. Bouterse's next steps are uncertain, but he may decide to stage a show trial, exile the group, or threaten its members before releasing them. Another round of executions also is possible, but it would increase domestic alienation, weaken Bouterse's already tenuous support in the military, and further outrage international opinion. [redacted]

[redacted]

25X1
25X1Top Secret
[redacted]

25X1

1 February 1983

Top Secret

25X1

ISRAEL: President To Step Down

President Navon's announcement yesterday that he will not seek reelection when his term ends in May leaves open the possibility he would, after an interval away from public life, be available to head the Labor Party and challenge Prime Minister Begin. A new poll indicates a Labor Party under Navon's chairmanship and Begin's Likud bloc would each win 50 seats in the 120-member Knesset if elections were held today.

25X1

Comment: Since Navon apparently is not prepared to fight for the top leadership position in the Labor Party, he probably will wait for indications the position can be his for the asking. He also will want to wait until Begin decides whether to schedule early elections. National Religious Party head Burg appears to be the current frontrunner to succeed Navon.

25X1

25X1

25X1

Top Secret

25X1



633577 2-83

Top Secret
[redacted]

25X1

USSR - WESTERN EUROPE: Nuclear-Free Zone

TASS last week reported the USSR would accept Sweden's proposal for a nuclear-free zone in Central Europe if the zone were expanded to extend at least 250 kilometers on either side of the border between East and West Germany. Sweden had proposed a 300-kilometer zone. TASS stated the smaller zone would do little to reduce the nuclear danger because of the range of current tactical nuclear delivery systems. [redacted]

25X1

Comment: The Soviet counterproposal is another attempt to fan opposition in Western Europe to modernization of NATO nuclear forces by capitalizing on the interest in nuclear-free zones. It would affect NATO's nuclear-capable forces in West Germany. For example, most of NATO's air units with nuclear delivery missions are in the Soviet-proposed zone. The Soviets probably would maintain that their air units in Poland are outside the zone. [redacted]

25X1

25X1

Top Secret
[redacted]

25X1

1 February 1983



25X1

Top Secret
[redacted]

25X1

VIETNAM-KAMPUCHEA: Attack on Resistance Base

Vietnamese forces supported by armor and artillery attacked and occupied the non-Communist resistance base at Nong Chan yesterday. The US Embassy in Bangkok reports many of the 40,000 civilians, along with resistance troops, evacuated the camp. The Thai have moved some reinforcements to the border area near the base. Nong Chan is the third resistance base to fall in three weeks.

[redacted]

25X1

Comment: The attack marks the largest operation by the Vietnamese this dry season. It is partly a reaction to the limited gains made by the small non-Communist resistance group over the past few months. The attack may also be aimed at embarrassing China, whose Army Chief of Staff is in Thailand to discuss support for the resistance forces.

[redacted]

25X1

25X1

Top Secret
[redacted]

25X1

Top Secret

25X1

BERMUDA: Early Elections

The government hopes to widen its 22-to-18 majority in Parliament in elections on Thursday, but the outcome could be close. Premier Swan's United Bermuda Party, which includes the island's white establishment, would like a mandate for seeking early independence from the UK. Swan, Bermuda's second black premier, has strengthened the unity of his party and is confident that a surge of popular support justifies his gamble of calling the early elections.

25X1

Comment: The opposition Progressive Labor Party has made steady gains since 1976, mainly among blacks, who comprise 59 percent of the population. It has challenged the presence of a US military facility and tends to identify with a Third World, nonaligned ideology. A large voter turnout would work in its favor. Voter registration since 1980 has shown a substantial increase, primarily among discontented young blacks.

25X1

25X1

HAITI: Threat to Pope's Life

A Miami-based Haitian exile group has threatened to assassinate Pope John Paul II during his visit to Haiti on 9 March, according to the US Embassy. The group was responsible for the deaths of several Haitians last month in a bombing in Port-au-Prince. It also claimed credit for wounding a US citizen in a local shooting incident last summer, and it has been linked to several minor bombings over the last two months.

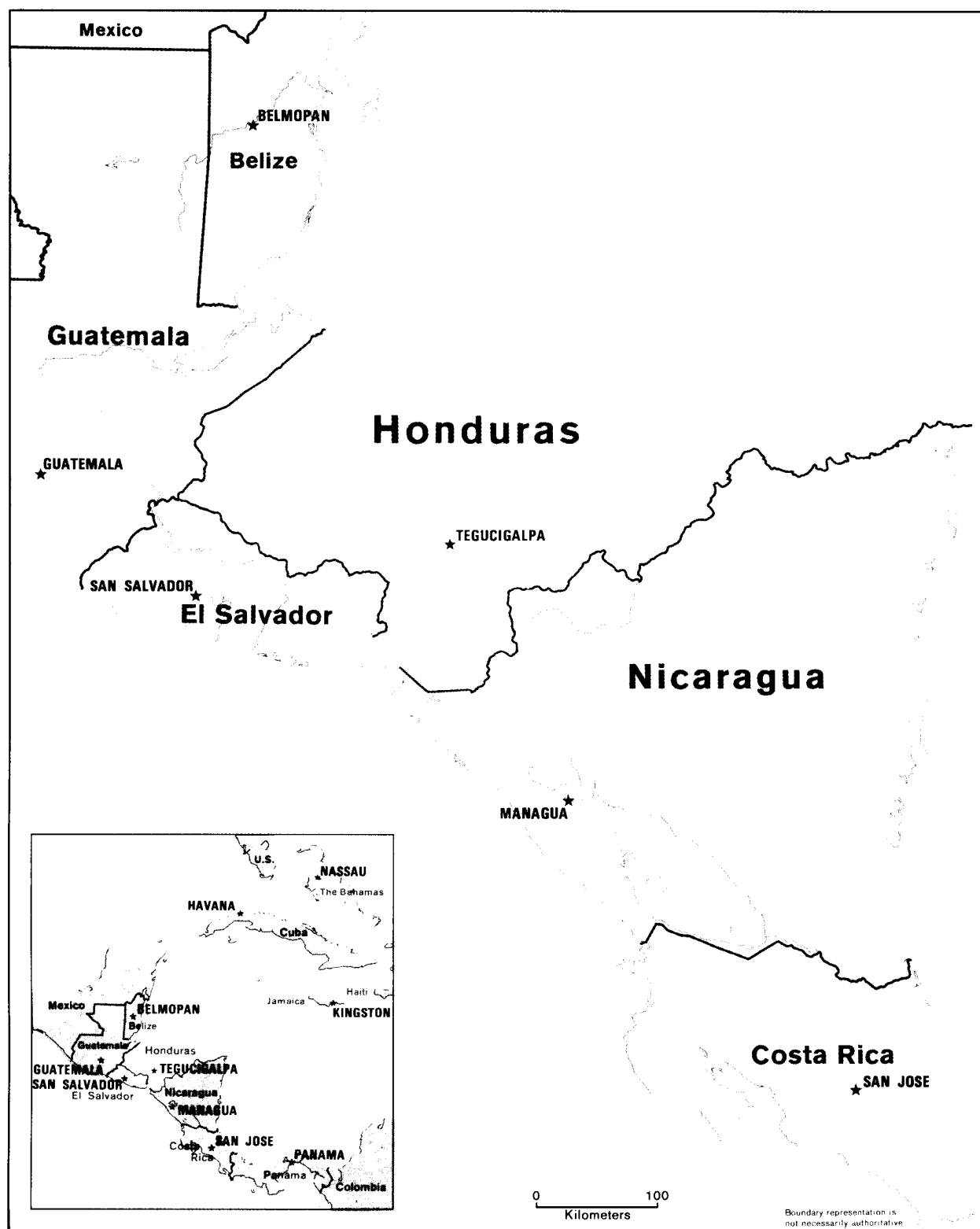
25X1

Comment: The Haitian Government should be able to provide adequate protection against a direct attack on the Pope but lacks experience in crowd control. The exiles can carry out small-scale terrorist actions and could disrupt the visit by bombing a mass gathering, although the threat may be intended simply to embarrass the government. The government, which is increasingly nervous about internal security, also may increase pressure on local dissidents and postpone the municipal elections planned for late February.

25X1

Top Secret

25X1



633574 2-83

Top Secret
[redacted]

25X1

Special Analysis

HONDURAS: One Year of Civilian Government

President Suazo, who leads the first civilian administration in over a decade, has gained the confidence of the military and earned wide popularity through his efforts to stop government corruption and restore fiscal responsibility. His pro-US position and firm response to leftist radicals, however, have made Honduras a target for subversion supported from abroad. Some progress is being made on the country's economic difficulties, but underlying problems remain. [redacted]

25X1

Suazo and Commander in Chief Alvarez have developed a mutually beneficial coalition despite doubts by the military hierarchy before the election last year that the new administration would be effective. The transition to civilian rule has been aided by their close personal relationship and by their opposition to Communism. Their fear of the Sandinista-backed subversive threat has made it easier for them to cooperate. [redacted]

25X1
25X1

Foreign Policies

The government's most urgent foreign problem is to contain the threat from Nicaragua. [redacted]

25X1
25X1

[redacted] Although Honduras relies on US support, constraints in the US on increasing military assistance appear to have prompted questions in Tegucigalpa over Washington's dependability. [redacted]

25X1

25X1

--continued

Top Secret
[redacted]

25X1

1 February 1983

Top Secret

25X1

Domestic Policies and Support

Popular support for the civilian government remains strong. Terrorism has produced a backlash against the left, enabling Suazo to undercut its support within labor and the universities. Military reforms aimed primarily at improving counterterrorist capabilities have been widely endorsed, as have Suazo's efforts to streamline the bureaucracy and replace incompetent managers with trained technocrats. []

25X1

Continuing support of the government depends mainly on improved economic performance. Suazo's range of actions, however, has been constrained by depressed international economic conditions, depleted foreign exchange reserves, and the impact of regional instability on investor confidence. Although the President has launched a fiscal austerity program, recovery is unlikely for at least another year. []

25X1

Nevertheless, some progress has been made. The government apparently met the targets for December stipulated by an IMF standby agreement, which is likely to help build up the sagging balance of payments. []

25X1

In addition, new mining legislation to attract foreign investors has been enacted. A recent long-term

--continued

Top Secret

25X1

Top Secret
[redacted]

25X1

agreement with a US oil company to continue refinery operations probably will put Honduras in a stronger position to obtain Mexican and Venezuelan crude oil on concessionary terms. [redacted]

25X1

Outlook

Suazo's administration will continue to feel threatened by regional tensions. The internal political situation is likely to remain stable, however, as long as the President's partnership with Alvarez endures and the military establishment does not believe its vital interests are in jeopardy. [redacted]

25X1

The economy will continue to be a major problem. Because Suazo's short-term prospects for alleviating the financial dilemma are poor, discontent among workers probably will increase. So far he has stood firm against demands for higher wages by unions of government workers, but this may cause his popularity with organized labor to slip in the future. [redacted]

25X1

Top Secret
[redacted]

25X1

Top Secret

25X1

Top Secret